

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 25 as follows:

Figure 3 schematically shows a block diagram of a preferred embodiment according to the present invention. As shown, an apparatus 300 for multiple host access to a storage medium comprises a first hot plug/hot swap interface 301 and a second plug/hot swap interface 302, which are disposed for interfacing to a first host 100 and a second host 200, respectively. In this embodiment, the first hot plug/hot swap interface 301 and the second hot plug/hot swap interface 302 are both USB interfaces, and the first host 100 and the second host 200 may be any type of devices that support the USB protocol, for example, personal computers, servers ~~serves~~, PDAs and cellular phones.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 32 as follows:

Figure 6 schematically illustrates the structure for implementing the preferred embodiment according to the present invention. In order to provide an apparatus having both the functions of data storage and data transfer while being handy and convenient to carry around, when designing a product for commercializing the invention, the apparatus 300 is separated into a transfer/storage apparatus 300' and an extension cable 300''. The circuit of the above described apparatus 300 is incorporated in the transfer/storage apparatus 300', and a first connector 321 and a second connector 322 are respectively provided at the first hot plug/hot swap interface 301 and the second hot plug/hot swap interface 302. The extension cable 300'' is a cable having a predetermined length, with a third connector 323 provided at one end and a fourth ~~forth~~

connector 324 provided at the other end. The first connector 321 of the transfer/storage apparatus 300' is adapted to be plugged into the connector 101 of the first host 100, while the second connector 322 of the transfer/storage apparatus 300' is adapted to connect to the third connector 323 at one end of the extension cable 300'' and thus to the connector 201 of the second host 200 through the fourth ~~forth~~ connector 324 at the other end of the extension cable 300''. Thereby, the first host 100 and the second host 200 may respectively be interfaced to the first hot plug/hot swap interface 301 and the second hot plug/hot swap interface 302.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 26 as follows:

The separable design described above is advantageous for two reasons. First, the extension cable 300'' may be detached so that the transfer/storage apparatus 300' becomes a handy mini drive. Second, with the extension cable 300'' attached, the transfer/storage apparatus 300' is convenient to be used for bridging two hosts. Moreover, the extension cable 300'' is a conventional cable, such as a USB AB cable, and thus a cable of the same type can be easily obtained ~~obtain~~ if an user does not carry one.